



Ram Navami

Dharma in the Ramayana

Patience (Dhriti)

Bharat goes on the lookout for Ram to return back and rule. Lakshman thinks that Bharat has come to kill them and stands ready to fight. Ram douses Lakshman's fury and request him to listen to Bharat.

Forgiveness & Compassion (Kshamaa)

Vibheeshan was kicked out by Ravan when he decried Sita's abduction as misconduct. Ram readily takes Vibheeshan under his fold, recognising him as a virtuous person.

The war ends with Ram's fatal arrow on Ravan, punishing him for his wrongdoings. Compassionate for the fallen, Ram sends Lakshman to listen to what Ravan had to say before dying; Ravan was like an encyclopaedia of knowledge who did not use that neither for his own benefit, nor for the welfare of the people of Lanka.

Fortitude, Strong willpower (Dama)

The Vaanars (forest dwellers), under the leadership of Ram showed great determination in the battle against the army of the Raakshas (evil-minded people) who was mightier both in numbers and wapons.

Non-stealing (Asteya)

After the battle, Ram did not keep Lanka under his control. After crowning Vibheeshan as the new king, he returned to Ayodhya with Sita and Lakshman.

Purity (Saucha), purity of body & mind

Ram and Lakshman refuse to fall under the spell of Suparnakha.

Sita chooses to stay in the AshokVatika rather than be Ravan's queen away from his riches.

Self-control, Self-restraint (Indriyanigraha)

Ram's self-discipline is the driving force in the victory of right over might.

Ravan's lust leads him to an infamous defeat.

Wisdom (Dhi)

Ravan was more knowledgeable than Ram ...as good as an encyclopaedia which does not use the knowledge therein for its own benefit.

Ram was more learned, he efficiently and effectively applied the knowledge in daily life.

Great learning (Vidya)

The Ramayan era was an era of great learning. Ram's describes Hanuman (a forest dweller) as an impressively humble and cultured person due to his thorough understanding of the Veda.

The applications of science and technology is impressive, amongst others: Ayurveda or health sciences and the use of the Sanjeevani to resuscitate Lakshman; the Pushpak vimaan for travel; living in harmony with nature; weaponry.

Spiritual sciences are seen as spiritual reality in daily life of Ram, a highly inspiring walk-the-talk personality.

Truth (Satya)

True to his vows, Dashrath agrees to Kaikeyi's demand to hand over the crown to Bharat and order Ram to exile, even if the shock led to his death. Ram's compliance to the king's orders reflect his absolute devotion to principles.

Ram fulfil his promise to Sugreeva to remove Bali, the unjust ruler of Kishkindhya and appointed Angad, Bali's son as the prince regent.

Non-anger (Akrodha)

Vibheeshan simply submits to the rage of Ravan and teams up with Ram to restore rightful rule in Lanka. Ram's temper is *Manyu*, resentment on the wrongdoings, but compassion for the fallen.

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